

## Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----002071 011813Z /44

O 011758Z JUL 78 ZFF-4  
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2407  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM NIACT IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 02770

EXDIS

FOR EMBASSY CAPE TOWN

E.O. 11652:GDS  
TAGS: PORT, SF, NA  
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: CHANGE IN TALKING POINTS FOR NYERERE

REF: A) USUN 2766 B) PETREE/MAYNES TELECON JULY 1

SUMMARY: THE GERMANS, ON THEBASIS OF A CORRECTED UNDERSTANDING OF  
THE CONTENT OF SCHMIDT'S CONVERSATIONS WITH KAUNDA AND OBASANJO,  
EARLY JULY 1, URGENTLY REQUESTED AGREEMENT TO AMENDTHE TALKING  
PINTS TRANSMITTED REFTEL TO DELETE REFERENCETO OURWILLINGNESS  
TO APPROACH THE SOUTH AFRICANS ON THE SUGGESTION OF CONCENTRATING  
THE SOUTH AFRICAN RESIDUAL FORCEONLY AT GROOTFONTEIN. SCHMIDT AND  
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GENSCHER, WE NOW UNDERSTAND, DID NOT USE THIS FALL-BACK SUGGESTION  
WITH THE AFRICANS AND ARE CONVINCED, ON THEBASIS OF THEIR TALKS WITH  
KAUNDA ET AL, THAT A) IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO OBTAIN FRONTLINE SUPPORT  
FOR OUR APPROACH TO SWAPO, ANDB) THE SUGGESTION IN ANY EVENT IS UN-  
LIKELY TO BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE SOUTH AFRICANS. THE DEPARTMENT  
ENDORSED OUR DECISION TO AUTHORIZE THE GERMANS TO RELAY  
OUR AGREEMENT TO RELEVANT AMENDMENTS OF THE TALKING POINTS,WHICH

NOW HOPEFULLY WILLBE USED WITH NYERERE JULY 2. END SUMMARY.

1. FRG MISSION COUNSELORHANS VERGAU, THE REGULAR GERMAN MEMBER OF THE NEW YORK CONTACT GROUP, CALLED POLMIN EARLY JULY 1 TO REQUEST OUR URGENT AGREEMENT TO AMENDMENT OF THE TALKING POINTS WE HAD TRANSMITTED FOR DAR'S ACTION (REF.A). VERGAU SAID HIS GOVERNMENT HAD STOPPED THE JULY 1 APPROACH TO NYERERE AND ASKEDTHAT ITBE DEFERRED UNTIL JULY 2 TO PERMIT THE FIVE TO STRAIGHTEN OUT A GLITCH THAT OCCURRED IN GERMAN COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING THE SCHMIDT/GENSCHER CONVERSATIONS IN AFRICA JUNE 29.

2. VERGAU EXPLAINED THAT, AT THE TIME HE INFORMED THE CONTACT GROUP OF THE SCHMIDT/KAUNDA ANDOBASANJO CONVERSATIONS, THE ONLY INFORMATION HEPOSSESSED WAS GLEANED FROM A TELEPHONE DISCUSSION HE HAD HAD WITH THE SCHMIDT PARTY IN FLIGHT. HE WAS TOLD THAT THE TALKS WITH KAUNDA ET AL (INCLUDING A MEETING BETWEEN GENSCHER AND A "VICE PRESIDENT"OFBOTSWANA) HAD GONE EXCEEDINGLY WELL, AND THAT THEAFRICAN LEADERS HAD REACTED FAVORABLY TO A GERMAN PRESENTATION BASED ON THE TALKING POINTS PREPARED FOR NYERERE BY THE NEW YORK CONTACT GROUP. THE SCHMIDT PARTY REPORTED "WE USED YOUR TALKING POINTS," FROM WHICH VERGAU ASSUMED THAT SCHMIDT HAD BROACHED THE FALL-BACK SUGGESTION OF CONCENTRATING SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS ONLY IN

GROOTFONTEIN. WHEN BONN READ THE GERMAN MISSION'S REPORT OF THE CONTACT GROUP'S REVISED TALKING POINTS (REFTEL), THE FOREIGN OFFICE IMMEDIATELY RECOGNIZED THE MISUNDERSTANDING THAT HAD OCCURRED AND TOOK CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION TO STRAIGHTEN IT OUT.

3. BONN (MUELLER) REQUESTED OUR CONCURRENCE IN AN APPROACH TO NYERERE THAT WOULD IN ESSENCE ASK HIS SUPPORT FOR PROCEEDING ON THE BASIS OF THEWESTERN FIVE PROPOSAL AS IT STANDS, WITHOUT MENTIONING THE POSSIBILITY OF ATTEMPTING TO GET SOUTH AFRICAN AGREEMENT TO THE OSHIVELLO VARIATION. THEY CONCLUDED, IN LIGHT OFTHE FAVORABLE REACTION OFTHEAFRICANS TO THE GERMAN PRESENTATION WITHOUT THE FALL-BACK, THAT THE AFRICANS ARE NOT SURPRISEDTHAT WE FAILEDTO OBTAIN SOUTH AFRICAN AGREEMENTTO SUCH A PROPOSAL. THE GERMANS BELIEVE THE FRONTLINES WANTED THE ADDITIONAL APPROACH TO SOUTH AFRICAMAINLY TO HELP THEM RETURN TO THEARGUMENTWITH SWAPO. THE GERMANS ALSO AGREEWITH OTHERS IN THEGROUP THAT WE WOULD HAVE A VERY DIFFICULT TIME OBTAINING SOUTH AFRICAN AGREEMENT TO RELINQUISH THEIR RIGHT TO USE OSHIVELLO. THEY THEREFORE ARE RELUCTANT TO RISK A SITUATION IN WHICH WE OBTAIN AFRICAN AGREEMENT BASED ON THE VARIANT PROPOSAL AND THEN ARE UNABLETO GET THE SOUTH AFRICANS TO AGREE. THEY WERE ESPECIALLY RELUCTANT TO CHANGE SUCH AN OUTCOME IN LIGHT OF THE APPARENT WILLINGNESS OF KAUNDA ANDOBASANJO (AND THE BOTSWANAN), AT LEAST, TO SUPPORT US ON THE BASIS OF THE PROPOSAL AS IT STANDS.

4. POLMIN GAVEOUR CONCURRENCE TO THE REQUESTED REVISION IN THE

NYERERE TALKING POINTS, SINCE THE NEW GERMAN INFORMATION BASICALLY CHANGED THE SITUATION, RETURNING IT VERY NEARLY TO THAT WHICH HAD SEEMED TO US ORIGINALLY TO BE A STRONG APPROACH TO NYERERE BASED ONLY ON OUR PROPOSAL AS IT STANDS. THIS JUDGMENT WAS SUBSEQUENTLY ENDORSED BY THE DEPARTMENT VIA TELEPHONE (REF.B). THE OTHER THREE ALSO HAVE AGREED AND WE ALL HAVE AUTHORIZED THE GERMANS TO RELAY THIS AGREEMENT TO DAR AND MAKE CERTAIN DELETIONS IN THE INSTRUCTED TALKING POINTS, NOW HOPEFULLY TO BE USED WITH NYERERE JULY 2.

5. THE GERMANS SPECIFICALLY SUGGESTED THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----002087 011815Z /44

O 011758Z JUL 78 ZFF-4  
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2408  
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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 02770

EXDIS

FOR EMBASSY CAPE TOWN

THE TALKING POINTS TRANSMITTED REF A:

A. PARA 9: DELETE THE FIRST TWO SENTENCES ("WE ARE AWARE THAT SWAPO . . . FOREGO THE OPTION OF STATIONING FORCES IN OSHIVELLO.")

B. PARA 10: DELETE THE LAST SENTENCE ("IF, HOWEVER, YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES . . . LESS CERTAIN COURSE OF ACTION WE HAVE JUST DESCRIBED."). LEONARD

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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